

Senior Citizens Advisory Committee
Wednesday, December 15, 2010
Town Hall, Old Town Road
11:15 a.m.

Present: Chair Gail Pierce, Marguerite Donnelly, Janet Merritt, Linda Spak, William Wilson, Sandra Kelly, Dorothy Graham and Mimi Leveille. Betsy Theve was absent. Deputy Town Clerk Millie McGinnes was present for the recording of minutes.

Gail Pierce called the meeting to order at 11:20 a.m.

Approve Minutes of November 17, 2010 Meeting

Ms. Leveille moved to approve the minutes of November 17, 2010 as amended. Ms. Spak seconded the motion and it carried.

7 Ayes (Wilson, Kelly, Pierce, Spak, Donnelly, Graham, Leveille) 0 Nays
1 Abstain (Merritt) 1 Absent (Theve)

Update on Activities:

Chair Aerobics

Ms. Donnelly will continue to try to contact Robin Lewis to see if she will train members of the program to self-instruct the class. She suggested using existing structures, such as the Recreation Department, which may be able to put together an exercise program for seniors. Thai Chi was suggested. Ms. Donnelly will invite Rob Closter to the next meeting. It was noted that once a program is up and running, publicity should be heightened to promote the program. Ideas that were also suggested were offering multi-class punch cards and gift certificates.

Swimming Pool

Ms. Spak reported that Meredith McAloon of the Neptune House is interested in exploring the pool stair installation. Ms. Spak will research the stair options further and speak with the manufacturers. She noted that her next step is to have a meeting with Rob Closter, Meredith McAloon, and the Neptune's maintenance director.

Defibrillator Demonstration

It was reported that the defibrillator demonstration by Bonny Ryan was great and they hoped to hold another. Mr. Wilson suggested getting a written list of notes and protocols regarding the demonstration for review at home. Ms. Leveille will contact Bonny Ryan for such a list and also write her a thank you note. Ms. Pierce noted that there is a 911 phone on the counter in the kitchen in case of emergency.

Discussion on the Name of the Committee

Mr. Wilson explained that he was in favor of asking the Town Council to change the committee's name, as it suggests to him that only seniors can serve on the committee. Following discussion, Mr. Wilson made a motion to make a request to the Town Council that they change the name of the committee to the "Senior Affairs Committee." Ms. Spak seconded the motion and it carried.

8 Ayes (Wilson, Kelly, Pierce, Spak, Donnelly, Graham, Leveille, Merritt) 0 Nays
1 Absent (Theve)

Community Bulletin Board

Ms. Merritt stated that they were still experiencing some glitches with Google Groups. She thought that it would take another month or two to work out the kinks. A couple of names were raised that may be willing to volunteer to help with Google Groups. Ms. Kelly mentioned that there was a Twitter groups that they may look into further.

Providing Seniors with Safety Devices; lights were distributed Friday December 10

Ms. Pierce reported that seven lights had been distributed and she was going to purchase ten more. Ms. Spak reported that the Ladies Auxiliary of the Block Island Fire Department will distribute smoke and carbon monoxide detectors at Soup Group and Lunch Bunch for no cost. She noted that Sam Spak has volunteered to do the installations. She further noted that Chris O'Neill has volunteered to do a fire extinguisher demonstration in the spring.

Money Disbursement

Discussion ensued regarding the use of the funds in the Committee's budget. The following items were suggested:

- A donation toward the replacement of the carpet in the Community Center.
- Computer help for Google Groups.
- A donation toward the pool steps.

Ms. Leveille made a motion to donate \$500 toward the replacement of the carpet at the Community Center. There was no second to the motion. Ms. Leveille stated that she will get estimates regarding the carpet replacement.

It was noted that the committee needed to focus on next year's budget needs.

FISH

It was noted that the FISH program had been busy and effective.

Senior Moments

There was no discussion regarding this item.

New Business:

- Peter Souro from South County Community Action re: Medicare D
- Linnea Tuttle will also be coming over to represent South County Elder Care

It was noted that Peter Souro and Linnea Tuttle will be coming on Friday, December 17th and they will make a presentation regarding Medicare D after Soup Group.

- Senior Advisory Committee membership

Ms. Pierce reported that, as Bill Wilson does not wish to be reappointed, there will be one vacancy on the committee. A few names were suggested.

The committee members thanked Mr. Wilson for getting the committee up and going and for his relentless work on the board.

Discussion ensued regarding the upcoming meeting between Interstate Navigation and the Town Council.

Discussion ensued regarding the process of providing a social worker.

Set Annual Meeting Schedule

The annual meeting schedule was set as follows:

Wednesday, January 19, 2011 (11:15 a.m.)	* Tuesday, July 19, 2011
Wednesday, February 16, 2011 (11:15 a.m.)	* Tuesday, August 16, 2011
Wednesday, March 16, 2011	Wednesday, September 21, 2011
Wednesday, April 20, 2011	Wednesday, October 19, 2011
Wednesday, May 18, 2011	Wednesday, November 16, 2011
Wednesday, June 15, 2011	Wednesday, December 21, 2011

* The board will meet on Tuesday in July and August.

The meetings will be held at 10:30 a.m. (11:15 a.m. in January and February) at Town Hall, Old Town Road, Block Island.

Public Input

There was no public input.

Next Meeting – January 19, 2011 at 11:15 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2011 at 11:15 a.m.

At 12:25 p.m., Ms. Leveille moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graham and carried unanimously.

Millie McGinnes
Deputy Town Clerk

Approved: January 19, 2011